

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LENDING 00979 041404Z
ACTION EUR-03

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FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4178

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 00979

FOR GARRISON FROM BUCHANAN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJ: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

REF: STATE 083885

1. TOM BUCHANAN IS CURRENTLY IN FRANCE ON LEAVE AND THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE LENINGRAD SUMMER ASSIGNEES ARE, OF COURSE, SUBJECT TO HIS FINAL IMPRIMATUR.

2. AS PRELIMINARY INDICATION, HOWEVER, WE CAN SAY THAT THE PROPOSED ARRIVAL DATES FOR CRUMP AND BURGESS DO NOT APPEAR TO PRESENT ANY GREAT DIFFICULTY FOR US. RUECKERT AND HAYS PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATES DO NOT PRECISELY COINCIDE WITH PROJECTED CRUMP AND BURGESS ARRIVALS, BUT THEY ARE CLOSE ENOUGH SO THAT WE DO NOT FORESEE ANY DISLOCATION AT POST.

3. PROJECTED LATE AUGUST ARRIVAL FOLEY VICE CLYATT, HOWEVER, CAUSES US HEARTBURN. WITH HEAVY SUMMER TOURIST INFLUX AND USUAL SHOCK TO SYSTEM THAT VISIT TO WORKERS' PARADISE ENTAILS, SUMMER MONTHS ARE PEAK SEASON FOR OUR CONSULAR SECTION. WE HAVE BEEN HARD PRESSED TO MEET WORKLOAD IN PAST SEVERAL SUMMERS EVEN WITH TWO OFFICERS ON BOARD. WE COULD NOT DO ADEQUATE JOB OF IT WITH CARLSON
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PAGE 02 LENDING 00979 041404Z

ALONE. WE WOULD NOTE THAT EXPERIENCED PIT AMERICAN SECRETARY, WHO HAS BEEN GREAT HELP SINCE HER ARRIVAL ON BOARD, WILL ALSO BE LEAVING IN EARLY SUMMER.

4. WE CONSIDER IT GROSSLY UNFAIR TO ASK OSCAR CLYATT TO EXTEND. HE ALREADY HAS EXTENDED ONCE (FROM FEBRUARY TO JULY 1) AND AFTER GRUELING ASSIGNMENT HERE (TESTIFIED TO

BY HIS MANY COMMENDATIONS AND BY RECENT HEAVY SURVEILLANCE AND HARASSMENT DIRECTED AT HIM) OSCAR IS JUST EXHAUSTED. HE FEELS THAT FOR PERSONAL AND FAMILY REASONS HE IS UNABLE TO PROLONG HIS ASSIGNMENT BEYOND JULY 1 AND WE ARE STRONGLY SYMPATHETIC TO HIS CASE.

5. WE ARE VERY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO PLANS FOR UTILIZING CORA FOLEY AT POST AND ENCOURAGE AS MUCH PRIOR TRAINING AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT SIMPLY PERMITTING FOLEY FAMILY TO TRAVEL TOGETHER IS SOUND ENOUGH REASON TO JUSTIFY POSSIBLE EXTENDED VACANCY IN CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT CONSULAR SECTION. WE, THEREFORE, MOST STRONGLY URGE THAT YOU MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PERSUADE FOLEY TO THINK IN TERMS OF ALTERNATE OPTION OF COMING ON BOARD AT BEGINNING OF JULY AND LETTING FAMILY JOIN HIM LATER AFTER COMPLETION OF CORA'S TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS.
RUECKERT

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NNN

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